TRAVELER'S BRIEFING

GREAT BRITAIN

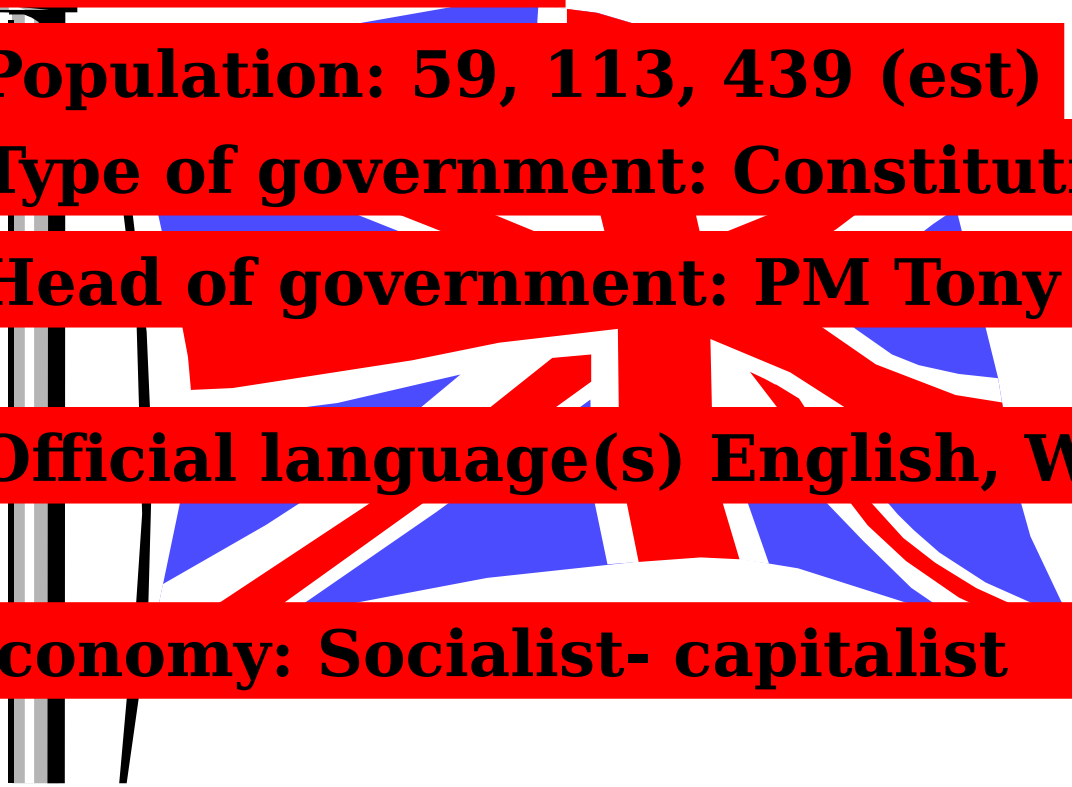
nited Kingdom of Great Brita and Northern Ireland)

© 1988-1999 Microsoft and/or its suppliers. All rights reserved.

BACKGROUND

Full Name: United Kingdom of Great B
Northern Ireland

Capital: London



Population: 59, 113, 439 (est)

Type of government: Constitutional Mon

Head of government: PM Tony Blair

Official language(s) English, Welsh, Gae

Economy: Socialist- capitalist

Religions: Anglican (42%), Catholic (15%

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: None

International Airport: London

Flights from Frankfurt: Birtish Airways, Lufthansa, British Mid

Other methods of arrival: Ship/Road/Rail

U.S. Embassy address: 24/31 Grosvenor Square, London
Tel: 44-171-499-9000/; FAX: 44-171-499-7688

Transportation: Public transportation: Excellent.

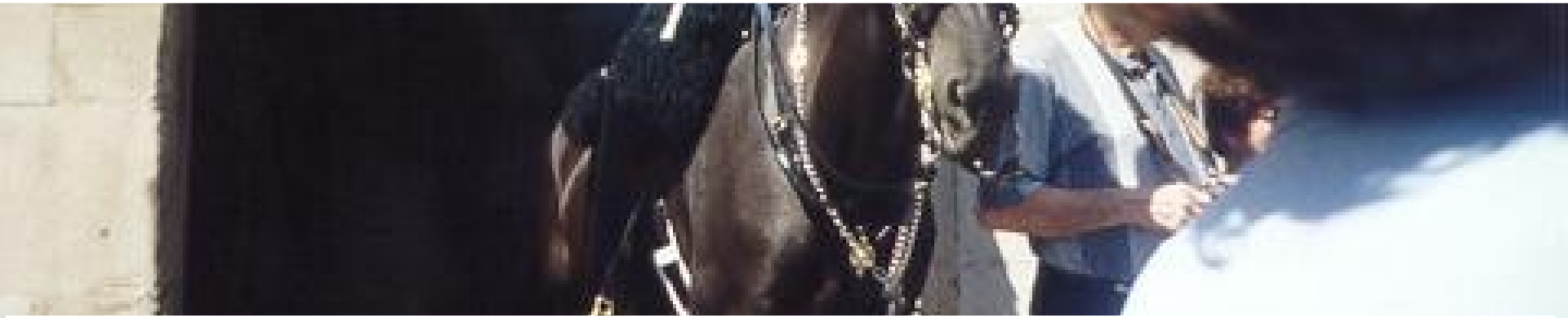
Urban Roads/Maintenance: Excellent.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Excellent.

Availability of roadside assistance: Excellent. U.K. penalties for drunk driving are stiff. Visitors uncomfortable with the prospect of left-sided driving may wish to avail themselves of extensive rail and air transport networks. Roads in the

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: Military personnel on official business are exempt passports, but do require military ID cards and NATO TDY travel orders. Military personnel on leave require ID card and leave orders. Civilian personnel (including dependents) require passports. A visa is not required for stays of six months or less. Visas are required for stays of six months or more.



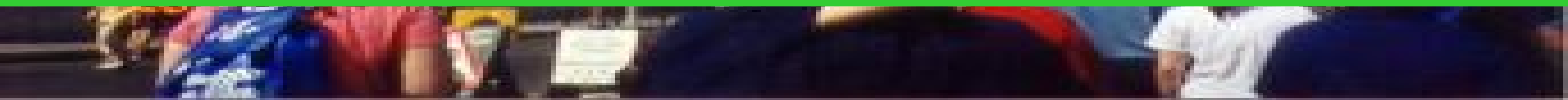
Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is required

Duty-free entry for used personal effects: 200 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos, or 50 cigars, or 250G tobacco, 2 liters still table wine, 1 liter of liqueurs over 22% alcohol by volume or fortified or sparkling wines, 2 liters of other liqueurs, or 2

HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions: The United Kingdom has particularly rigorous quarantine restrictions on the importation of pets and livestock. There is a six-month quarantine, for example, on importation of dogs and cats. Firearms must be declared and immediately registered. Prohibited from entry into the United Kingdom: either party to a marriage under the age of 16 on the date of arrival in the United Kingdom will be denied entry. The phone number for police/fire/ambulance emergency services--the equivalent of "911" in the U.S.--is 999 in the United Kingdom and 122 in Gibraltar.

Amembassy operating hours are 0830-1730L Mon-Fri. During non-duty hours Embassy operator will contact necessary personnel.



MONEY

Currency restrictions: There are no currency restrictions.

Rate: Approximate: .63 British Pounds for $1.

HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, arthropod-borne diseases, STDs, cold injuries, and industrial pollution.
Availability of medical services: Good.

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Great Britain.

Status of hospitals: Good.

Health Precautions: Anyone staying more than six months and applicants for work permits require an HIV test. US tests are

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B (recommended), TB (recommended) MMR (recommended) and tetanus-disptheria boosters (recommended). Individuals who are sensitive to immunizing agents must have valid medical proof.

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance: Required for all military personnel traveling to Great Britain. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be coordinated through G3/S3 channels.

Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer or equivalent.

Northern Ireland continues to be an area of security concern for visiting US citizens. Personnel visiting Northern Ireland must exercise particular care in their activities with British military personnel. US personnel will receive special clearance and briefings prior to visiting Northern Ireland. Bomb attacks targeting minority groups occurred in London during the Spring of 1999. Americans were not singled out, but the incidents occurred in public areas frequented by residents and visitors alike.

CRIME

Criminal Activities: The United Kingdom and Gibraltar benefit from generally low crime rates, and incidents of violent crime are rare. However, incidents of pickpocketing and theft of unattended bags in urban areas are common. Pickpockets are especially active at sites frequented by tourists, including restaurants, historic sites, buses, trains and the London Underground (subway). Thieves often target unattended cars parked at tourist sites. American visitors should take steps to ensure the safety of their U.S. passports. Visitors in the United Kingdom are not expected to produce identity documents for police authorities and thus may secure their passports in hotel safes or residences. In Northern Ireland, however, passports or other photographic I.D. should be carried at all times. The loss or theft of a U.S. passport should be reported immediately to the local police and the nearest U.S. embassy

Great Britain is strict on: Firearms. British customs authorities may strictly enforce regulationson material deemed likely to incite racial hatred, firearms and personal

WEATHER

http://cnn

CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Uniform is appropriate when visiting US installations and British military installations outside the greater London area and while conducting business with USNAVEUR. Civilian clothing is required at all times in Northern Ireland and, unless specifically requested by the host, on visits to the greater London area, commercial companies, and civilian universities. Civilian clothing will be worn at all commercial airports in the UK (including London Heathrow and Gatwick). A raincoat is essential. Lightweight wool clothing is suitable all year.

This concludes the TRAVELER'S BRIEFING for

GREAT BRITAIN